Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Claims 41-167 are pending in the application, with claims 41, 80, 96, 110 and 133 being the independent claims.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

The Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Application Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures states that no sequence listing has been submitted for the peptide sequence SYFPEITHI disclosed on page 16 of the specification. Applicants respectfully assert that as referenced on page 16, SYFPEITHI is the name of an HLA database and not a peptide sequence. Therefore, inclusion of SYFPEITHI in a sequence listing is not required. Applicants have amended the specification to clarify that SYFPEITHI is the name of a database and to remove the hyperlinked text, as currently required. Applicants also submit a copy of the SYFPEITHI homepage (Exhibit 1) showing that SYFPEITHI is a database of over 4000 peptide sequences. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the request for a Substitute Sequence Listing be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe

that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Eric K. Steffe

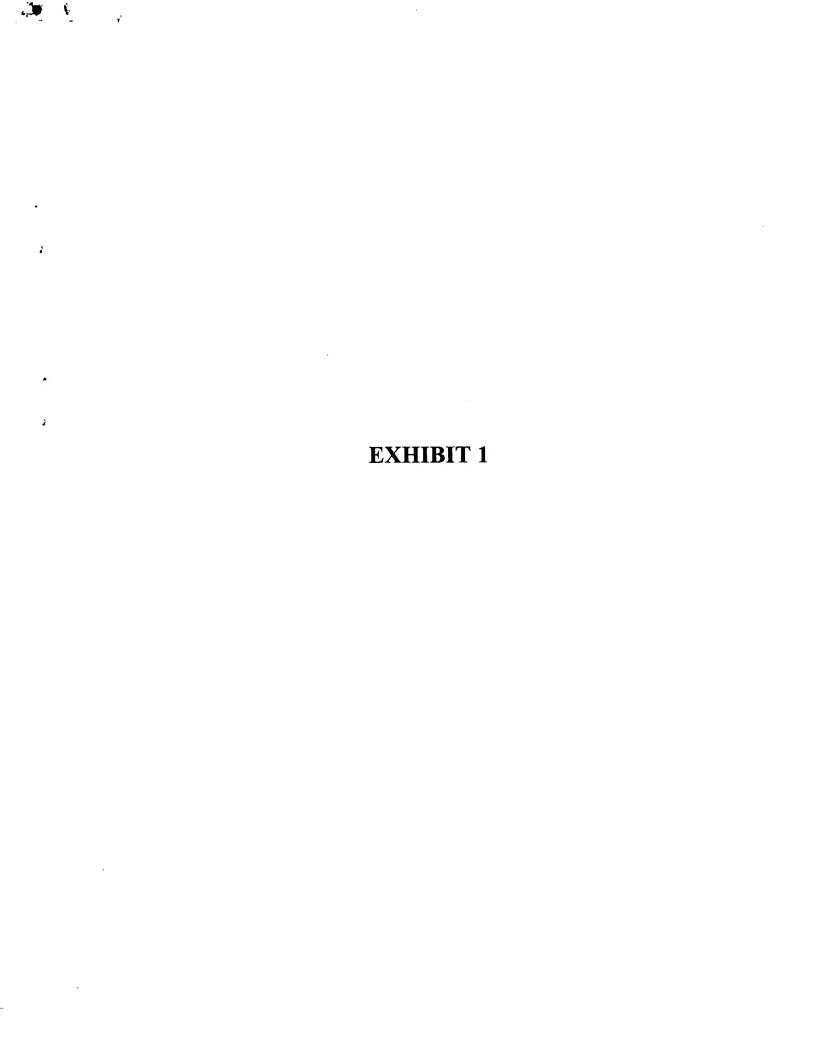
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A DATABASE OF MHC LIGANDS AND PEPTIDE MOTIFS (Ver. 1.0)

SYFPEITHI is a database comprising more than 4000 peptide sequences known to bind class I and class II MHC molecules. The entries are compiled from published reports only.

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